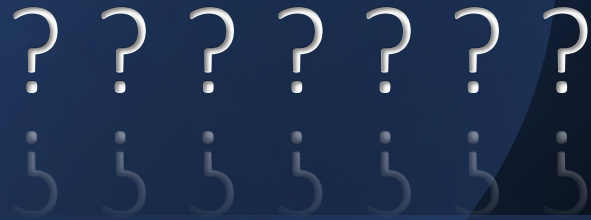




SURVEILLANCE
What do we need to
do?

Fraser Sampson
Biometrics & Surveillance
Camera Commissioner

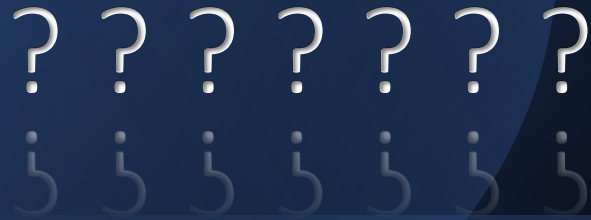


 **Who's this and why is he here?**

 **Why are we here?**

 **What's he talking about?**





1. **Understand** - public space surveillance
2. **Recognise** - benefits, risks and realities in changing environment
3. **Consider** - practical measures for balancing these elements

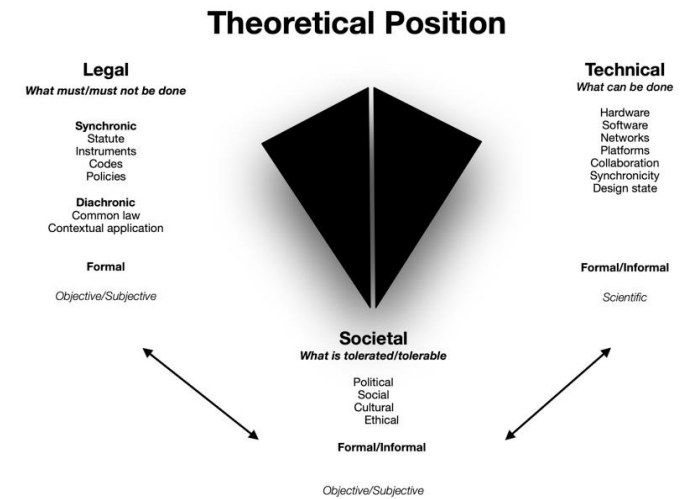


Context

- Cameras-to-people, London 3rd most surveilled city on Earth (73.5 cameras per 1,000 pop);
- Cams-per-mile² = 1,138.5 = 2nd place
- Automated Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) already claims more hits-per-second than Instagram
- Will reach 100m reads –per-day before end 2023
- That's 1Bn in under 2 weeks
- Misread rate of just .001 = 100k per day

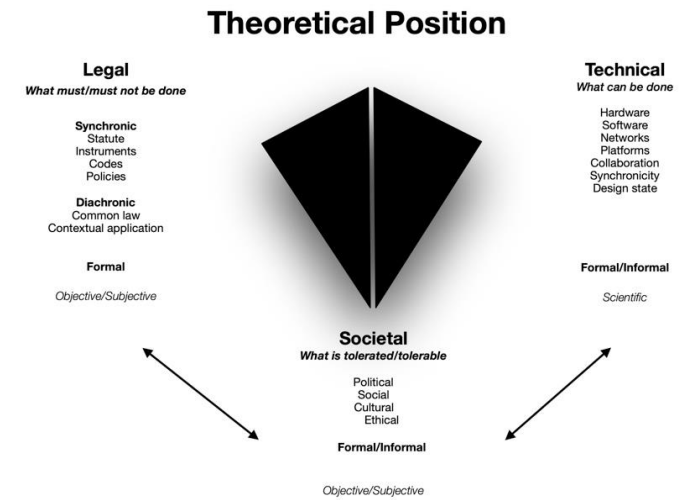
Perspective

- Technological (what can be done)
- Legal (what must/must not be done)
- Societal (what people are prepared to support/tolerate being done)



Perspective

- Technological (Possible)
- Legal (Permissible)
- Societal (Acceptable)



Legal



Home Office

Surveillance Camera Code of Practice

First Published June 2013
Amended November 2021

November 2021

Legal

- “Public space surveillance camera systems” s.29(6) of PoFA 2012
- Closed circuit television (CCTV)
- Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR)
- Any systems for recording/viewing images for surveillance purposes
- Any systems for storing, receiving, transmitting, processing or checking the images or information obtained by the above
- Systems associated with, or otherwise connected to them

Legal

The overarching purpose “to *enable* operators of surveillance camera systems to make *legitimate* use of available technology in a way that the public would rightly expect and to a standard that maintains public trust and confidence.”

Legal

There's a recognition of the Societal perspective too
- what people expect

There's no mention of just the police or local
authorities

“enabling operators of surveillance camera systems
to make legitimate use of available technology”.

Legal

12 guiding principles:

Use must *always* be for a **specified purpose** in pursuit of a legitimate aim and *necessary* to meet identified pressing need.

The user must take into account its **effect on individuals & their privacy, with regular reviews** to ensure its use remains justified.

There must be *as much transparency in the use of a surveillance camera system as possible*, including published contact point for access to information & complaints.

There must be clear **responsibility and accountability** for all surveillance camera system activities.

Clear rules, policies and procedures *must be in place before a surveillance camera system is used* & **communicated** to all who need to comply with them.

Legal

No more images should be stored than *strictly required for the stated purpose* - images & information should be **deleted** once purposes have been discharged.

Access should be restricted - must be clearly defined **rules on who can access, for what purpose.**

Operators should consider any **approved operational, technical and competency standards.**

Images & information should be subject *to appropriate security measures* to safeguard against unauthorised access & use.

There should be *effective review & audit mechanisms* to ensure legal requirements, policies and standards are **complied with in practice** & regular reports published.

When used in pursuit of a legitimate aim, and there is a pressing need it should then be used in the most effective way to support public safety and law enforcement with the aim of processing images and information of *evidential*

value Any information supporting an SC system which compares against a reference database for matching purposes should be **accurate and kept up to date.**

Legal

Human Rights ECHR

the right to respect for private and family life (Article 8);

freedom of thought, conscience and religion (Article 9);

freedom of expression (Article 10);

freedom of assembly and association (Article 11); and

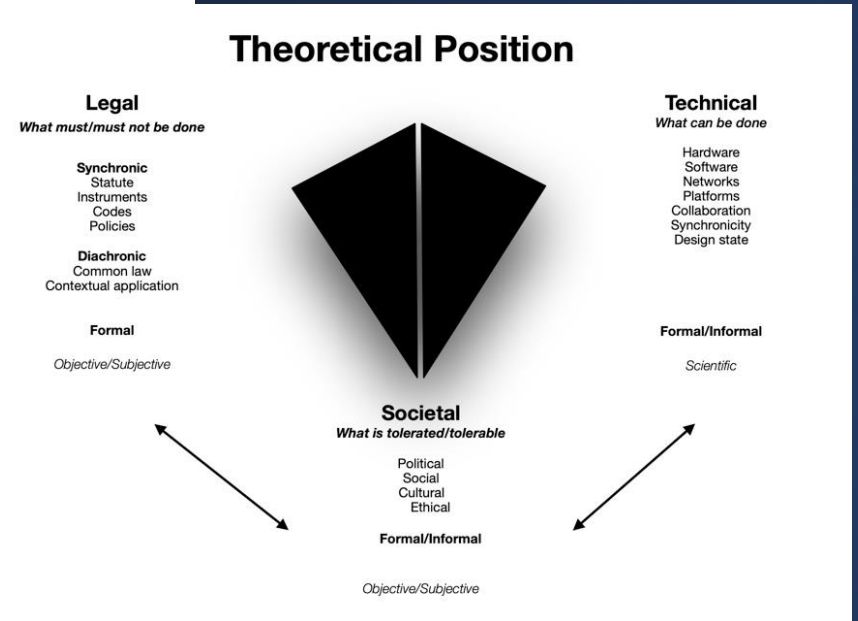
protection from discrimination (Article 14).

Societal



Public Space Surveillance

Public space surveillance is no longer about **where you put your camera** – it's about the **purposes** to which you're going to put the billions of available images captured on *anybody and everybody's* camera



Surveillance Relationship

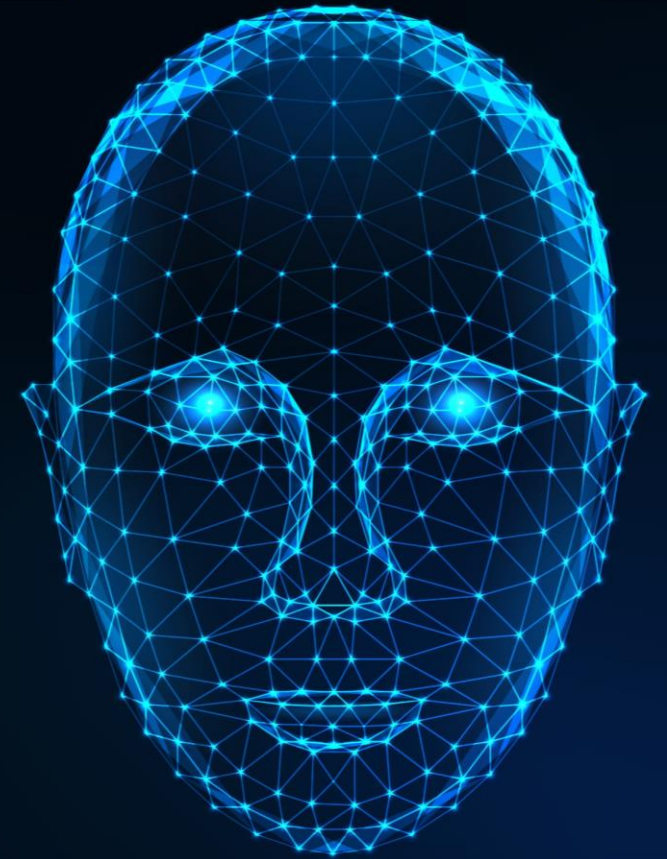
The surveillance relationship with the citizen is changing – policing no longer just needs images *of* the citizen but increasingly *from* the citizen & businesses.

When that sharing becomes a critical dependency this is going to matter - a lot.



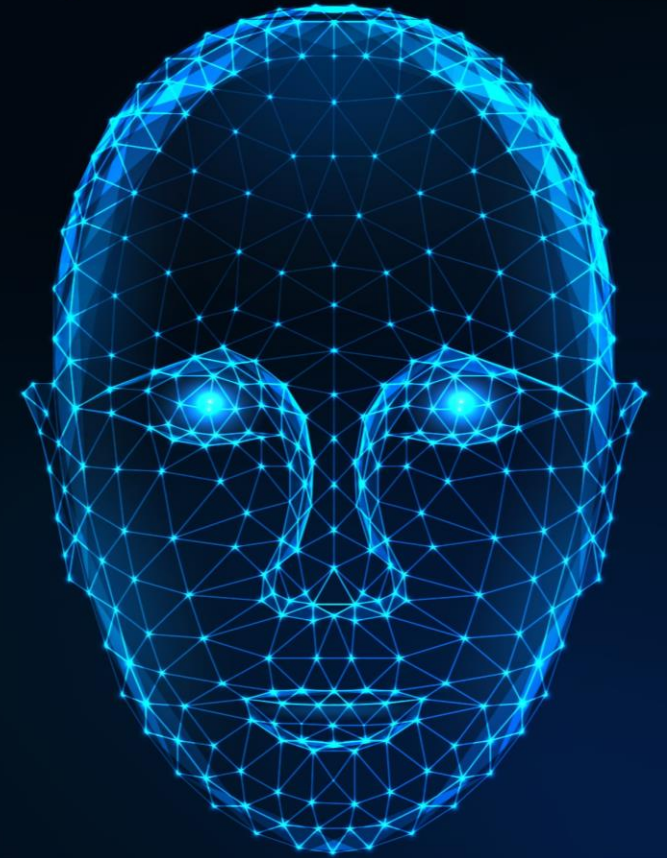
Face Recognition

Just Another Metric?



Technological Possibility

The more we CAN
do with
surveillance
technology, the
more important it
will be to show
what we're NOT
doing with it



Trust

The people we trust must be able to trust their surveillance partners and their technology

Accountability = acknowledgement and assumption of responsibility for actions, decisions, and their consequences

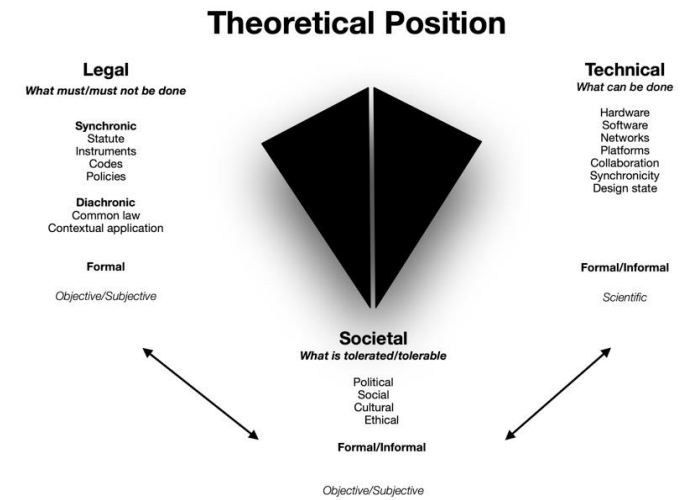
Willingness to engage in public scrutiny



**SURVEILLANCE CAMERA
COMMISSIONER**

Perspective

- Technological (Possible)
- Legal (Permissible)
- Societal (Acceptable)



What to do?

Trust is an asset – treat it like one – identify, evaluate, protect, promote and monitor risks – appreciating/depreciating?

Meaningful and auditable policy documents – lead with them don't wait to be asked

Cover off the three elements: technical, legal and acceptable – check **alignment** of ethical values with those of your staff/customers

Frame policy documents according to gravity and risk

Red team them with others in your sector – test with regulators

Have someone **independent review** them

Track the possibilities for redress, learning and improvement

Adopt the SC Code

What Next?

Data Protection & Digital Information
Bill

OBSCC

March?

Office of the Biometrics and Surveillance Camera Commissioner

QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE



OFFICE OF THE BIOMETRICS
AND SURVEILLANCE
CAMERA COMMISSIONER

Office of the Biometrics and Surveillance Camera Commissioner

Thank you

Enquiries@obscc.org.uk



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